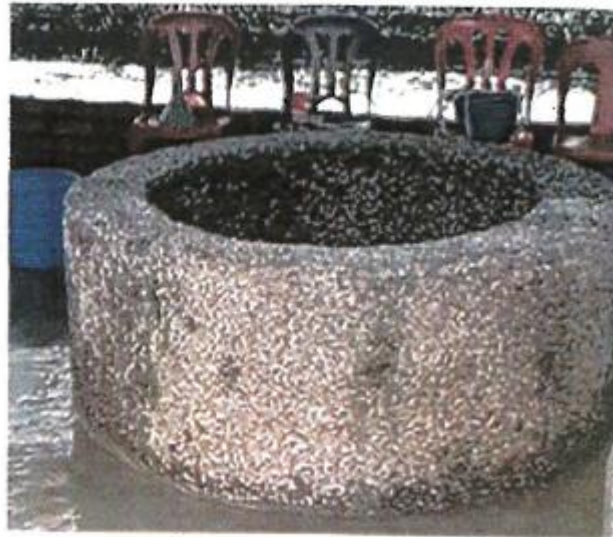


AKHBAR : KOSMO AHAD
MUKA SURAT : 13
RUANGAN : NEGARA

Negara! 13



JKNNS sedang menyiasat penggunaan air perigi terapi ion yang didakwa mampu membantu pelbagai penyakit.

Hasil siasatan perigi terapi ion akan diumumkan

JITRA - Kementerian Kesihatan akan mengumumkan hasil siasatan berhubung penggunaan perigi terapi di Rembau, Negeri Sembilan yang didakwa mampu menyembuhkan pelbagai penyakit dalam masa terdekat.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad berkata, pihaknya akan membuat penjelasan dan dapatan daripada hasil siasatan tersebut yang diharapkan dapat menyelesaikan sebarang kekeliruan.

"Kita sudah jawab perkara itu sebelum ini, tetapi akan buat pengulasan dan dapatan dalam masa terdekat, saya ingat sangat mustahak untuk kita sentiasa cekik dan literasi.

"Jangan kita semua tanpa mengira bangsa, jangan mudah sangat dipermainkan," katanya selepas Majlis Perasmian Konvensyen Parti Amanah Negara (Amanah) di Bandar Darul Aman

di sini semalam.

Bellau berkata demikian sebagai mengulas berhubung perigi di Rembau yang didakwa mampu memberi manfaat kesihatan kepada individu menghidap pelbagai penyakit termasuk strok menerusi teknologi rawatan khas.

Dr. Dzulkefly berkata, orang ramai dinasihatkan supaya sentiasa berhati-hati dan tidak mudah terpedaya dengan sebarang bentuk dakwaan yang bersifat keterlaluan kecuali mempunyai bukti yang sah.

"Apa pun tuntutan tidak salah ia mesti dibuktikan dengan asas bukti," jelasnya.

Kosmo! pada 30 Oktober lalu melaporkan Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri, Negeri Sembilan (JKNNS) sedang menjalankan siasatan berhubung penggunaan air perigi terapi ion di Rembau yang didakwa boleh menyembuhkan pelbagai penyakit.

AKHBAR : MINGGUAN MALAYSIA
MUKA SURAT : 8
RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

Dalam Negeri

3,200 pegawai perubatan kontrak dilantik tetap

PUTRAJAYA: Seramai 3,200 pegawai perubatan, 350 pegawai pergigian dan 400 pegawai farmasi yang memohon lantikan kontrak (interim) di Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) dilantik secara tetap oleh Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Awam (SPA) pada 21 Oktober lalu.

KKM dalam satu kenyataan memaklumkan, mana-mana calon yang berhasrat merayu pertukaran penempatan boleh dibuat menerusi Google Form yang disediakan dalam sistem e-Placement.

Katanya, permohonan itu boleh dibuat dari 5 hingga 11 November ini bagi pegawai perubatan manakala untuk pegawai pergigian dan pegawai farmasi dipanjangkan sehingga 15 November.

"Hanya rayuan yang dikemukakan menerusi Google Form dalam tempoh ditetapkan dibawa untuk pertimbangan.

"Keputusan rayuan akan dimaklumkan kepada calon menerusi portal Semakan Kerjaya KKM pada 7 Disember ini," katanya semalam.

Menurut KKM, aspek rayuan yang akan dipertimbang adalah calon yang sedang mengikuti pengajian kejuruteraan diuluskan oleh KKM.

Selain itu ialah calon, pasangan atau anak menghadapi masalah kesihatan yang serius (disokong laporan perubatan) dan permohonan sula sama sula yang dikemukakan.

"Urusan penempatan calon ke fasiliti dilaksanakan oleh Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri mulai 23 Disember ini. Tarikh pelantikan tetap calon adalah mengikut tarikh kuat kuasa melapor diri bertugas iaitu 30 Disember ini atau tarikh baharu yang diluluskan oleh Ketua Jabatan sekiranya memohon penangguhan lapor diri bertugas," katanya.

AKHBAR : SINAR AHAD
MUKA SURAT : 30
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

30 NASIONAL 10 NOVEMBER 2024 | SINAR AHAD

Hantar surat kepada PM dan beberapa ahli Parlimen lain zahirkan rasa kecewa

Oleh NOR SYAZRINA MUHAMAD TAHIR SHAH ALAM

PPIM bantah pindaan Akta 342 mirip ISA

“ Kami juga hantar kepada beberapa ahli Parlimen lain bagi menyatakan rasa kecewa dengan keputusan Dewan Rakyat meluluskan pindaan akta ini pada 14 Oktober lalu.”

- Asri

Perwakilan Pengguna Islam Malaysia (PPIM) mengesahkan ada menghantar surat kepada Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim bagi membantah pindaan Akta Pencegahan dan Pengawalan Penyakit Berjangkit 1988 (Akta 342) yang didakwa menyalahi Akta Keselamatan Dalam Negeri (ISA) 1960.

Penasihatnya, Datuk Asri Yusoff berkata, surat bersama melibatkan 228 badan bukan kerajaan (NGO) masyarakat, pengamal perubatan dan peguam serta rakyat. Itu diserahkan pada 30 Oktober lalu.

“Kami juga hantar kepada beberapa ahli Parlimen lain bagi menyatakan rasa kecewa dengan keputusan Dewan Rakyat meluluskan pindaan akta ini pada 14 Oktober lalu.”

hantar kepada beberapa ahli Parlimen lain bagi menyatakan rasa kecewa dengan keputusan Dewan Rakyat meluluskan pindaan akta ini pada 14 Oktober lalu.

“Ketika Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob menjadi Perdana Menteri, Akta 342 digantung akibat bantahan keras termasuk daripada rakyat kerana RUU ini dianggap bersifat draconian.

“Kuasa penuh diberikan kepada Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan. Malah, Perdana Menteri dan Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulhijly yang beragama Islam pembangkang ketika itu turut membantah RUU ini,” katanya ketika ditemui di Kompleks Kumpulan Karangkraf di sini pada Jumaat.

Sebelum ini Dewan Rakyat pada 14 Oktober lalu meluluskan pindaan Akta 342 bertujuan meningkatkan kecekapan menangani ancaman penyakit berjangkit.

RUU berkenaan diluluskan dengan lebih suara bersetuju selepas bacaan kali ketiga oleh Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Lukmanman Awang Sauni.

Tambah Asri, terdapat lima seksyen baharu yang kritikal dan perlu diberi perhatian kerana terdedah kepada risiko penyalahgunaan kuasa serta pelanggaran privasi, selain kadar kompaun tinggi membebaskan golongan kurang berkemampuan.

Menurutnya, salah satu seksyen baharu dalam akta tersebut memberi kuasa kepada pegawai Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) menahan seseorang di-tuduh bersalah tanpa perlu dibicarakan di mahkamah.

“Pegawai diberi kuasa juga boleh memenitahkan supaya mana-mana individu dilindungi menjalani pengasingan, selain dibenarkan menggunakan kekerasan.

“Malah, pegawai juga boleh mengarahkan seseorang individu memakai dan menggunakan peranti pengesanan khas,” katanya.

Asri mendakwa, akta berkenaan mampu menjadi senjata politik, ekonomi, sosial dan agama apabila menimbulkan ketidambalangan dalam kalangan rakyat.



AKHBAR : SINAR AHAD
MUKA SURAT : 33
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

SINAR AHAD | 10 NOVEMBER 2024

Siasatan perigi ion akan dibentang

KKM masih lagi menyiasat, akan umum laporan dalam tempoh terdekat

Oleh ROSLINDA HASHIM
JITRA



Laporan Sinar Harian pada Sabtu lepas.

Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) masih menjalankan siasatan terperinci berhubung dakwaan perigi terapi ion di Ulu Segri, Rembau, Negeri Sembilan yang dikatakan dapat melegakan beberapa penyakit.

Mantri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad berkata, KKM akan menyedikan laporan dan hasil siasatan dalam masa terdekat.

Menurutnya, sebarang dakwaan atau kaitan dengan aspek kesihatan hendaknya disokong dengan bukti.

"Tidak masalah jika ada orang membuat tuntutan (seperti itu) tetapi mereka mesti berasaskan bukti. Itu pandangan KKM.

"Kami sedang menyiasat perkara tersebut dan akan mengeluarkan hasil siasatan tidak lama lagi," katanya kepada media selepas merasmikan Konvensyen Parti Amanah Negara (Amanah) Kedah 2024 di sini pada Sabtu.

Bani-banani tular di media sosial mandatkan penggunaan air dari perigi di Rembau itu mampu memberi manfaat kesihatan kepada individu yang menghidap pelbagai penyakit termasuk strok menerusi teknologi rawatan lisis.

KKM kemudian meneliti aplikasi X menjelaskan akan mengambil perhatian serius terhadap isu tersebut.

Dalam pada itu Dr Dzulkefly menasihatkan orang ramai agar lebih berhati-hati dengan dakwaan seumpama itu.

"Sangat penting untuk kita sentiasa melengkapi diri dengan maklumat, antaranya oleh ilmu kesihatan.

"Jangan mudah terpedaya dengan narabang tuntutan perubahan, jangan terlalu mudah dipermasalahkan oleh sebarang maklumat yang belum pasti," tegas beliau.



DR DZULKEFLY

AKHBAR : SUNDAY STAR
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : NATION

RUNWAY STAR, SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2024

Nation 5

Get the flu vax to stay active again

By IMRAN HILMY
imran@thestar.com.my

GEORGE TOWN: While the influenza virus tends to thrive during the colder months in countries with four seasons, tropical nations like Malaysia still face a potential outbreak, says a virologist with Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM).

"Increased rainfall towards the end of the year, particularly in several states across Malaysia recently, often correlates with a rise in influenza cases," said Dr Kumina Thava Das.

With the influenza virus constantly evolving, she noted that medical experts have recommended annual vaccinations to protect against the latest virus strains.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends people take the flu jab once every year, in February for those living in the Northern Hemisphere and in September for people in the Southern Hemisphere.

Dr Kumina said a common

misconception is that influenza, often referred to as the "flu", is no different from the common cold.

"In reality, influenza is a far more severe respiratory infection that can be life-threatening, especially for the high-risk groups."

"While cold symptoms are usually mild, influenza presents with more intense symptoms, including fever, severe muscle aches and extreme fatigue."

"In some serious cases, individuals may even experience chest pain, shortness of breath and loss of consciousness," said Dr Kumina.

The Institute for Research in Molecular Medicine (Inform) senior lecturer added that some people are particularly susceptible to contracting influenza.

Young children, the elderly, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions and those with weakened immune systems are all considered to be in the high-risk group, she noted.

"Because their immune systems are either still developing or less resilient, these individuals are at a higher risk of experiencing severe

complications from the virus," she explained.

She also said that influenza is highly contagious, especially during the initial stages when the symptoms begin to show.

"An infected person can spread the virus through droplets released when they cough or sneeze, making close-contact environments such as schools and public transportation a prime setting for transmission, she added."

Public health specialist Farid Dr Sharifa Ezat Wati Futeh said influenza could cause pneumonia, adding that pneumonia is one of the leading causes of deaths in the country, especially among women and the elderly.

"Hence, vaccinations against influenza are very important, especially among the high-risk groups such as the elderly, young children, disabled, homeless and immune-compromised people like diabetics and cancer patients."

"It could be dangerous for those in the high-risk categories because it could lead to lung complications," she said.

Dr Sharifa Ezat also urged the government to increase allocations for flu vaccinations, given that they may be costly for the low-income groups.

USM family medicine specialist Dr Mastura Mohd Sopian said certain groups of people, including health workers and infants younger than six months, are at greater risk of developing severe symptoms and complications.

She, too, reminded the public that vaccination is one of the most effective measures against influenza.

There are other simple practices that can help reduce the risk of infection.

"Wash your hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the chance of infection."

"Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth as the virus can enter the body through these areas."

"Wear a mask in crowded places or if you are experiencing symptoms. Try to limit contact with individuals who are symptomatic to minimise exposure," advised Dr Mastura.

Protect your workforce during flu season, businesses urged

By RAHIMY RAHIM
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PETALING JAYA: With flu and influenza cases likely to increase during the current monsoon season, health experts and stakeholders are calling on employers to step up protection in the workplace.

Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Nivas Rajagan said with the rise in influenza cases, it is essential that businesses prioritise their employees' health and safety.

"We advise members to encourage their staff experiencing symptoms to rest and recover at home to curb the spread of the virus. Also, to implement flexible work arrangements and remote options where feasible to help maintain productivity while ensuring the workers' well-being," he said.

Nivas also recommended that members provide masks and hand sanitizers to their employees as well as encourage flu vaccinations as preventive measures.

"Taking these proactive steps can help protect the workforce and ensure business continuity during this period," he said.

SME Association of Malaysia president Chin Chee Seeng noted that while their members, which comprise small and medium enterprises, are not facing serious cases of influenza, they are still taking additional precautions following the experience of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Several measures can be taken to protect workers, including implementing safety protocols, conducting regular health checks, adopting Covid-19 steps such as providing face masks, encouraging vaccination, offering flexible work arrangements and promoting hygiene practices."

"But most importantly, staying informed of new health guidelines and emerging situations from the Health Ministry," he said.

Dr Raj Kumar Mahalingam, a former president of Medical Practitioners Coalition Association of Malaysia, said proper measures should be implemented in the workplace to stop the spread of flu.

"In terms of individuals, they should wear a face mask and constantly monitor their hygiene."

"It's also advisable to practise social distancing if a person has caught a cold," he said.

Dr Raj Kumar recommended workers to immediately seek treatment at the nearest clinics to check if they have contracted influenza.

"When it is confirmed, the doctor will give the patient the required treatment and MC (medical certificate) so that they do not go out and spread the infection in the community," he said.

Dr Raj Kumar stressed that taking the influenza jab as he said it can protect individuals from having serious infections, which could be fatal to certain groups.

Beware the influenza bug

Experts warn of outbreak as contagious virus makes its rounds

By ALEX TENG
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GEORGE TOWN: Aghoo! It's the flu season, and the virus is making its rounds looking for new carriers during this monsoon season.

With cases of influenza A or B on the rise, experts are warning of an outbreak as the virus is highly contagious and prone to spreading during the cold climate.

The common symptoms are high fever, body aches, cough or flu, and nobody is safe from the virus unless one is vaccinated.

Croft servant K. Charles, 38, was out for lunch when he suddenly felt extremely tired and had shortness of breath.

"The feeling was like I got hit by a truck and could not continue riding my bike," he said.

Charles stopped by the roadside to call his father, who then rushed over and sent him to the hospital.

"I was in bed for five days with a high fever and body aches."

"My test result came back positive for influenza A, which the doctors say is highly infectious and more severe than influenza B."

"I was given antiviral drugs for the next few days. I lost my appetite and the doctor put me on intravenous (IV) drips."

Charles said that after he recovered, he promptly went to take a flu jab.

Jessie Lim, a clerk, 43, said she accompanied her son Jason Lee, 23, to a private clinic after he complained about feeling feverish and having body aches.

"At first, I thought he was merely having a fever, but to my surprise, his test showed that he had contracted influenza A."

"He was prescribed antibiotics and paracetamol and told to rest and take more fluids," she said.

As the disease is highly contagious, Lim said everyone in her family wore masks to contain the

spread of the virus and kept her son isolated.

Her anxiety did not end there, as Lim's 76-year-old mother, who lives with them, also came down with fever, flu and cough.

"I was so worried, thinking that the virus had spread among our family members."

"Luckily, my mother later tested negative for influenza A or B. Both of them recovered after a few days."

"A week later, I took both my son and my mum to a clinic to get the flu vaccines for a whole year's protection," she said, adding that she herself had gotten vaccinated against the flu earlier.

Imran Hilmy, who works in the media, was not ready to put his eight-year-old daughter's life on the line again after she recovered from Covid-19.

"When Maryam and her mother contracted Covid-19 during the pandemic, it was really painful for me to see both of them suffer

through it.

"With the influenza season nigh, now, I did not think twice about getting my daughter vaccinated."

"She needs a boost to her immune system, especially during these colder months when both the flu virus and other respiratory illnesses tend to rise," he said.

General practitioner Dr BS Goh said people of any age can catch the influenza virus.

The viruses that circulate widely in humans are the influenza A subtypes H1N1 and H3N2, along with influenza B, he said.

"Annual vaccination is recommended as this is the primary and most effective way to prevent influenza and influenza-related complications."

Dr Goh also advised holiday-makers planning to travel to places with colder climates to get the flu jabs before leaving to avoid falling sick later.

Penang health committee chair-

man Dania Gopi said staying vaccinated will not only protect individuals but also help safeguard the vulnerable folk within the community.

"Parents, too, should be attentive and refrain from sending their children to daycare centres, kindergartens or schools if they are ill," he added.

Gopi revealed that the cumulative number of influenza clusters in Penang rose to 27 by epidemic week (EW) 41 this year, up from 21 during the same period last year.

However, he said the consultation rate for influenza-like illness (ILI) in EW 41 this year had seen a slight decrease from 8.4% in 2023 to 5.4% this year.

"Although the number of cases per influenza outbreak has shown a significant decline with no serious cases detected in any of the outbreaks, the public still needs to be vigilant about their health and seek immediate treatment if they feel unwell," he said.



Stay safe and alert: People wearing face masks to protect themselves in George Town. — LIM BENG TATT/The Star

AKHBAR : SUNDAY STAR
MUKA SURAT : 9
RUANGAN : NATION

SUNDAY STAR, SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2024 Nation 9

4,000 staff to be made permanent

Healthcare professionals currently on contract will secure permanent positions

PETALING JAYA: Nearly 4,000 healthcare professionals who were offered interim job contracts in government hospitals three months ago have reason to celebrate after being granted permanent positions by the Public Services Commission on Oct 21.

The Health Ministry announced that the group includes 3,200 medical officers, 350 dentists and 400 pharmacists.

Job placements for these candidates will be managed by state health departments, with the process set to commence from Dec 23.

"The permanent placement for the candidates will take effect the day they report for duty, which is Dec 30, or another date determined by the head of department if a postponement request is made," the ministry said in a statement.

For those seeking to appeal the location of their new postings, the Health Ministry has provided a window for submission through an online Google Form in the Placement system.

Medical officers can submit their appeals from Nov 5 to 11, while dentists and pharmacists will have until Nov 15.

"Only appeals submitted via the Google Form will be considered by the placement appeals committee. Candidates will be notified of the outcome of their appeals through the Health Ministry's career review portal on Dec 2," the ministry said.

The Health Ministry listed a few grounds for appeal that could be considered, such as candidates enrolled in approved specialisation courses or those whose children have serious health conditions, as long as they can provide supporting medical documentation.

Additionally, the ministry will consider consensual exchanges between candidates for placement.

In a message to the successful candidates, the Health Ministry extended congratulations and expressed hope that they would demonstrate commitment to their duties and serve with excellence in the interest of public health and well-being.

The issue of permanent placements for contract healthcare workers has been a longstanding concern.

In April last year, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the government aims to absorb around 12,500 contract doctors into permanent positions over the next three years.